Bill No. 105 of 2024

THE QUALITY EDUCATION (ENHANCING THROUGH INTERNSHIP) BILL, 2024

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Ms. Praniti Sushilkumar Shinde, M.P.

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to enhance the quality of education in professional and technical courses by providing mandatory structured internships to the students, providing basic remuneration under the internship and establishing a national-level platform for internship application and for matters connected therewith.

Be it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-fifth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

Short title, extent and commencement.

1. (*1*) This Act may be called the Quality Education (Enhancing through Internship) Act, 2024.

(*2*) It extends to the whole of India.

(*3*) It shall come into force on such date, as the Central Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, appoint.

Definitions.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires,—

(*a*) "appropriate Government" means in the case of a State, the Government of that State and in all other cases, the Central Government;

(*b*) "company" means any firm, organisation, or business entity legally registered under Indian law or any other company registered outside India but operating in India;

(*c*) "internship" means a period of work experience offered by a company for a limited period of time;

(*d*) "Portal" means the National Internship Portal established for managing internship applications and placements of the students enrolled in professional courses under section 6;

(*e*) "prescribed" means prescribed by rules made under this Act.

(*f*) "professional/technical courses" means the courses offered by recognized educational institutions that provide specialised training in fields such as engineering, medicine, law, management and such other disciplines; and

(*g*) "student" means a person enrolled in any under-graduate or post-graduate professional or technical course.

Responsibilities of companies to provide internship opportunities.

3. The appropriate Government shall ensure that every registered company shall offer internship opportunities to students enrolled in any professional or technical courses based on capabilities and to provide remuneration during the internship programme in the company.

Minimum Internship Remuneration.

4. Every company shall provide minimum internship remuneration to the students undergoing internship in the company to compensate for the cost of travel and food for internships lasting one month or more based on the cost of living index as may be prescribed.

Employment opportunity to the interns.

5. If a student undergoes internship for six months or more in the same company, he may request the company for the offer for employment and company may consider the request in good faith and based on the performance of the student and employment needs of the company.

Establishment of the National Internship Portal.

6. (*1*) The Central Government shall establish a National Internship Portal to facilitate internship applications and placements of the Students.

(*2*) It shall be the responsibility of the appropriate Government to update the data relating to student application and placement State wise and district wise in such manner as may be prescribed.

Portal Management and Functionality.

7. (*1*) The portal established under section 6 shall facilitate students to apply and select the companies statewise and districtwise where they intend to undertake their internship.

(*2*) The portal shall enable the students to have access to the available internship opportunities based on their preferences, qualifications and availability.

(*3*) The Companies offering internships shall register on the portal and provide details of available positions, duration, remuneration and such other relevant information as may be prescribed.

(*4*) The Companies shall update the list of employment opportunities at least once in three months.

Monitoring and Compliance.

8. (*1*) The Central Government shall, by notification in the official gazette, establish a monitoring mechanism to ensure compliance with the provisions of this Act in such manner as may be prescribed.

(*2*) The composition of and the funds of the monitory mechanism shall be such as may be prescribed.

(*3*) Any non-compliance by companies of the provisions of the Act shall attract penalties as may be prescribed.

Central Government to provide funds.

9. The Central Government shall, after due appropriation made by Parliament by law in this behalf, provide adequate funds for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

Power to remove difficulties.

10. (*1*) If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of this Act, the Central Government may, by order, published in the Official Gazette, make such provisions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as may appear to be necessary for removing the difficulty:

Provided that no order shall be made under this section after the expiry of two years from the commencement of this Act.

(2) Every order made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament.

Act not in derogation of other law.

11. The provisions of this Act shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other law for the time being in force regulating any of the matters dealt with in this Act.

Power to make rules.

12. (*1*) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act.

(*2*) Every rule made under this Act shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days, which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both the Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

Internships plays a crucial role in shaping the career of the students, particularly to those enrolled in professional and technical courses. The Internship not only helps the students to gain real exposure to the working environment but also helps to develop requisite skills for their future avenues. In the Indian perspective, the need is to enhance the quality of education in professional and technical courses by providing students with structured internship opportunities. By ensuring that companies offer internships based on their capacity and provide basic remuneration, students will gain practical experience and financial support. The proposed establishment of a National Internship Portal will streamline the application process, making it easier for students to find suitable internships and for companies to find qualified interns.

The Bill aims to bridge the gap between academic learning and professional practice, thereby improving employability and career readiness among students enrolled in professional and technical course.

Hence this Bill.

NEW DELHI;
July 8, 2024.

PRANITI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE

FINANCIAL MEMORANDUM

Clause 6 of the Bill provides that the Central Government shall establish a National Internship Portal to facilitate internship applications and placements of the Students. Clause 8 provides for establishment of a Monitoring mechanism by the Central Government. Clause 9 provides for the Central Government to provide adequate funds. The Bill, therefore, if enacted, would involve expenditure from the Consolidated Fund of India. It is estimated that a recurring expenditure of about rupees five hundred crore per annum is likely to be involved from the Consolidated Fund of India.

A non-recurring expenditure of about rupees fifty crore is also likely to be involved.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING DELEGATED LEGISLATION

Clause 12 of the Bill empowers the Central Government to make rules for carrying out the provisions of the Act. As the rules will relate to matters of detail only, the delegation of legislative power is of a normal character.

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